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Attorney Docket No.: 5440.204-US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Kauppinen et al.

Confirmation No: 2264

Serial No.: 09/339,159

Group Art Unit: 1652

Filed: June 24, 1999

Examiner: M. Rao

For: Mannanases

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

GROUP 1600

Sir:


I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

1. Amendment Fee Transmittal (in duplicate)
2. Amendment

was sent to the United States Patent and Trademark Office by telefax to the attention of Examiner
M. Rao, fax number (703) 305-3014.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 18, 2002


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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 18, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-3, 9-11, 13, 20-23 and 26-29 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 32-45:

32. An isolated mannanase, which is

(a) a polypeptide encoded by the mannanase enzyme encoding part of the DNA sequence cloned into the plasmid present in *Escherichia coli* DSM 12197, or

(b) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of residues 31-330 of SEQ ID NO:2, or

(c) a polypeptide encoded by the DNA sequence of nucleotides 91-990 or 91-1470 of SEQ ID NO:1, or

(d) an analogue of the polypeptide defined in (a) or (b) which is at least 80% homologous with said polypeptide.

33. The mannanase of claim 32, which is obtained from a *Bacillus* strain.#18/C
MB
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O.K. to Enter